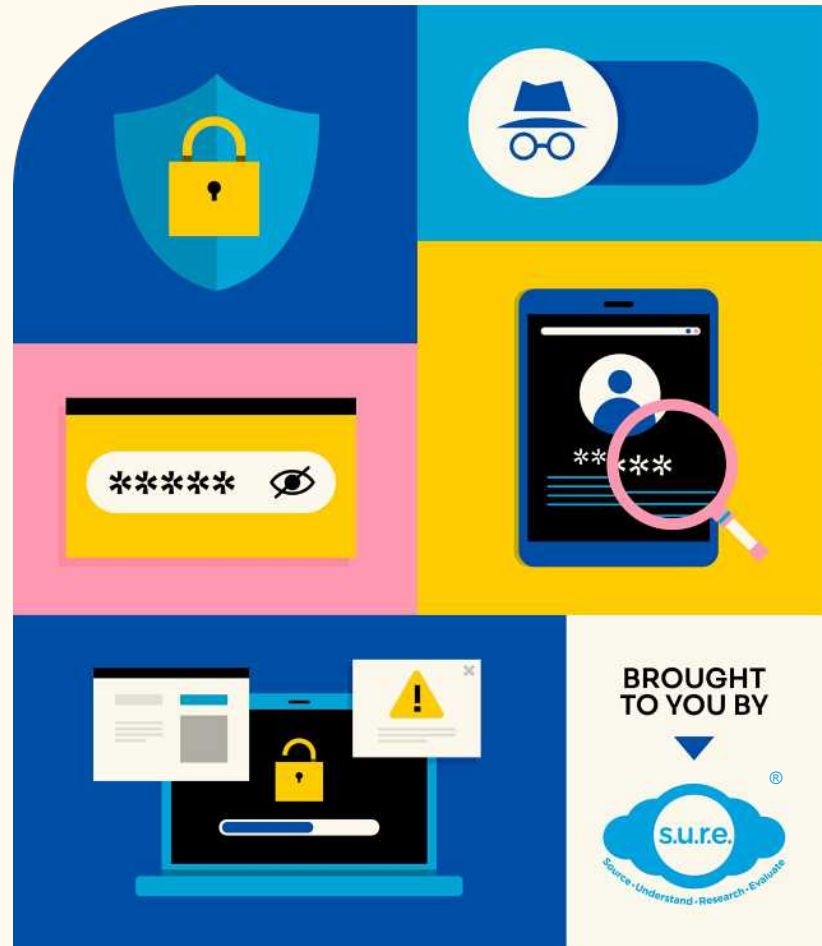


Personal Data and Privacy

In this topic, you will:

- Explore the concept of **data privacy**
- Learn about what you can do to **protect your data**

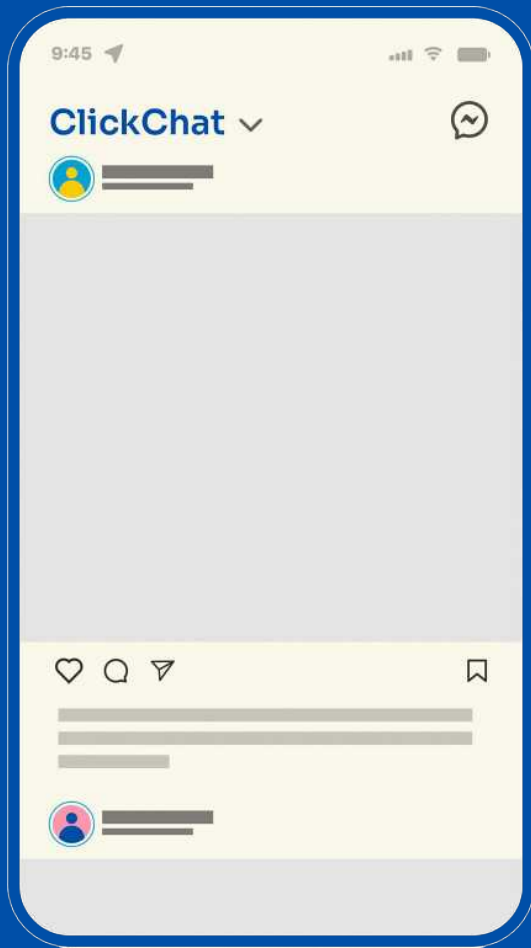




DISCLAIMER:

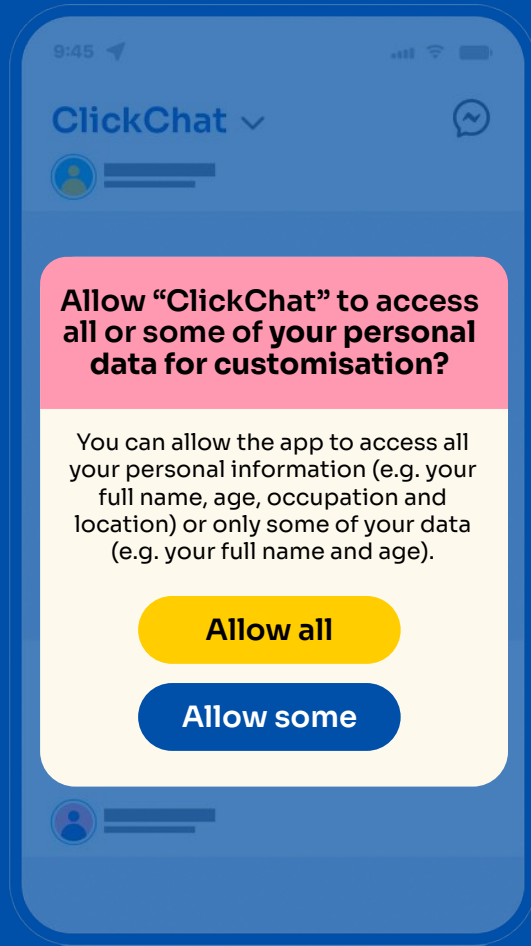
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GOT IT!



You're using **ClickChat**, a photo-sharing app, when a notification pops up asking for your permission to collect your personal data.

Personal data is information that can identify you in real life which you usually keep to yourself, such as your full name, occupation, age, and location.



You have the choice to
allow the app to
access all or some of
your personal data.



Select an option.

Image: [Unsplash](#)

You picked “Allow All”!

This may not have been the right choice.

Though applications like ClickChat might need to collect some of your data for you to use the platform, you’re unsure if you have given away too much personal information. Do you really trust them with your data?

NEXT

Image: Unsplash

Have you kept your data privacy intact?

- By giving away access to all your data, the company may be able to use your personal information for purposes that are unknown to you.
- Even if they are a trusted company, data breaches can also allow third parties such as cyber criminals to access your personal information.

NEXT

SEE OTHER OPTION

You picked “Allow Some”!

This is a great choice!

While ClickChat still needs some of your personal data for you to use the platform, you chose not to give the application access to all your personal information as that might be too invasive.

Have you kept your data privacy intact?

- You have been able to keep your personal data privacy intact by retaining control over how much information you are giving away.
- Even though ClickChat may be a trusted app, there is still a chance of a data breach on their platform which could allow your personal information to fall into the wrong hands.

Definition

Learning how to protect your personal data online is what we refer to as **data privacy**.



Data Privacy

The right of an individual to have a say over how their personal information is collected and used

Data privacy is ensured through different ways:

- By giving platforms permission to access only some of your personal data for the provision of a service or product
- By knowing how your personal data is collected and used by online platforms, websites, and applications

You might ask, “Why is it dangerous for my personal data to be leaked?”

- Hackers and scammers could use your data to access information like your bank account details. This could negatively affect your life.
- They could also use your data to impersonate you online or coerce you into doing things that you might not be comfortable with.
- It is thus important to ensure that your personal information is well-protected online.



Case study:

SingHealth Data Breach

Sometimes, data breaches can happen on a large scale!

- In 2018, a group of hackers breached SingHealth's database, stealing 1.5 million patients' data.
- The data stolen included medical data and other details such as names, NRIC numbers, and birthdays.



Image: [Unsplash](#)



- Investigations revealed that the data had been stolen through a SingHealth workstation which had been infected with malware.
- While the medical records of the affected patients were not tampered with, the fact that our personal information could be so easily stolen by bad actors shows how important it is to ensure our data privacy online.



Read [this article](#) to find out more about the SingHealth data breach.

So what can we do to protect our personal data online? We can start by being aware of how much personal information we are giving away to third-party platforms.



Governments have also implemented data protection regulations to help ensure that the rights of their citizens are protected when it comes to their personal information.

In 2012, Singapore introduced the Personal Data Protection Act (PDPA).

- The PDPA helps protect Singaporeans' data by ensuring that we have a say in how our personal data is collected by organisations.
- For instance, third-party platforms or websites do not have the power to collect personal information beyond what is necessary to provide a service to users.
- You can also request to see how your personal information has been used or disclosed by external organisations.





Maintaining your own privacy

Read this [article](#) about data privacy to find out more about how being cautious on the Internet can help ensure your safety online.

Use the S.U.R.E. framework to discover more about data privacy.

NEXT

Image: [Unsplash](#)

Answer these guiding questions below:

SOURCE: What do various sources or experts say about this topic?

UNDERSTAND: What are some of the insights provided that can help us better understand how our personal data is used and collected?

RESEARCH: How can I research more about this topic on my own?

EVALUATE: What are the steps we can use to evaluate how we can keep our personal data private?



There's more!

Move on to the next topic
Positive Online Habits to
discover more about your online
activities.

